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**buck·le** (bŭk'əl)

n.

1. A clasp for fastening two ends, as of straps or a belt, in which a device attached to one of the ends is fitted or coupled to the other.
2. An ornament that resembles this clasp, such as a metal square on a shoe or hat.
3. An instance of bending, warping, or crumpling; a bend or bulge.

v. **buck·led**, **buck·ling**, **buck·les**

v. tr.

1. To fasten with a buckle.
2. To cause to bend, warp, or crumple.

v. intr.

1. To become fastened with a buckle.
2. To bend, warp, or crumple, as under pressure or heat.
3. To give way; collapse: *My knees buckled with fear.*
4. To succumb, as to exhaustion or authority; give in: *finally buckled under the excessive demands of the job.*

**Phrasal Verbs:****buckle down**

To apply oneself with determination.

**buckle up**

To use a safety belt, especially in an automobile.

[Middle English *bokel*, from Old French *boucle*, from Latin *buccula*, *cheek strap of a helmet*, diminutive of *bucca*, *cheek*.]

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**buckle** [ˈbʌkəl]

n

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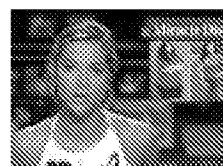
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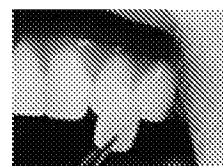
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## Glossary

1. (Clothing & Fashion) a clasp for fastening together two loose ends, esp of a belt or strap, usually consisting of a frame with an attached movable prong
2. (Clothing & Fashion) an ornamental representation of a buckle, as on a shoe
3. a kink, bulge, or other distortion *a buckle in a railway track*

vb

1. to fasten or be fastened with a buckle
2. to bend or cause to bend out of shape, esp as a result of pressure or heat

[from Old French *bocle*, from Latin *buccula* a little cheek, hence, cheek strap of a helmet, from *bucca* cheek]

Collins English Dictionary – Complete and Unabridged 6th Edition 2003. © William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd 1979, 1986 © HarperCollins Publishers 1991, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2003

## Thesaurus

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### Words [Antonyms]

**Noun 1. buckle** - fastener that fastens together two ends of a belt or strap; often has loose prong

belt buckle - the buckle used to fasten a belt

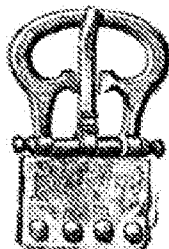
fastening, holdfast, fastener, fixing - restraint that attaches to something or holds something in place

prong - a pointed projection

**2. buckle** - a shape distorted by twisting or folding

warp

distorted shape, distortion - a shape resulting from distortion



**Verb 1. buckle** - fasten with a buckle or buckles

clasp

fasten, fix, secure - cause to be firmly attached; "fasten the lock onto the door"; "she fixed her gaze on the man"

unbuckle - undo the buckle of; "Unbuckle your seat belt"

**2. buckle** - fold or collapse; "His knees buckled"

crumple

cave in, collapse, fall in, give way, fouder, give, break - break down, literally or metaphorically; "The wall collapsed"; "The business collapsed"; "The dam broke"; "The roof collapsed"; "The wall gave in"; "The roof finally gave under the weight of the ice"

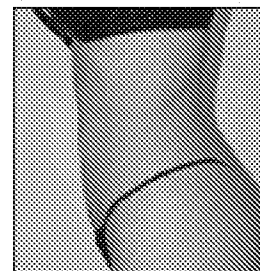
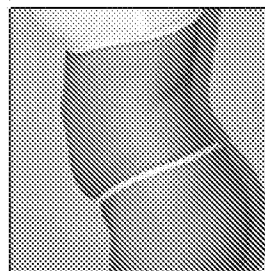
**3. buckle** - bend out of shape, as under pressure or from heat; "The highway buckled during the heat wave"

warp, heave

change surface - undergo or cause to undergo a change in the surface

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**lift** - rise upward, as from pressure or moisture;  
"The floor is lifting slowly"

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## buckle

### noun

**fastener, catch, clip, clasp, hasp** *He wore a belt with a large brass buckle.*

### verb

1. **fasten, close, secure, hook, clasp** *A man came out buckling his belt.*

2. **distort, bend, warp, crumple, contort** *A freak wave had buckled the deck.*

3. **collapse, bend, twist, fold, give way, subside, cave in, crumple** *His right leg buckled under him.*

**buckle down (informal)** **apply yourself, set to, fall to, pitch in, get busy, get cracking (informal), exert yourself, put your shoulder to the wheel** *I just buckled down and got on with playing.*

**buckle under** **give in, yield, concede, submit, surrender, succumb, cave in (informal), capitulate** *They accused him of buckling under to right-wing religious groups.*

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## - Translations

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## buckle

*n* **buckle** ['bʌkl]

a fastening for a strap or band *a belt with a silver buckle.*

*v*

1 to fasten with a buckle *He buckled on his sword.*

2 (usually of something metal) to make or become bent or crushed *The metal buckled in the great heat.*

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## buckle →

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#### - References in classic literature

Carpenter, when he's through with that **buckle**, tell him to forge a pair of steel shoulder-blades; there's a pedlar aboard with a crushing pack.

*Moby Dick LXVIII-CXXXIV by Melville, Herman*

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Take the whole of the nineteenth century in which **Buckle** lived.

*Notes from the Underground by Dostoyevsky, Fyodor*

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A richly wrought leathern girdle, studded with precious stones, and held in place by a huge carved **buckle** of gold, clasped the garment about her waist so that the upper portion fell outward over the girdle after the manner of a blouse.

*The Outlaw of Torn by Burroughs, Edgar Rice*

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